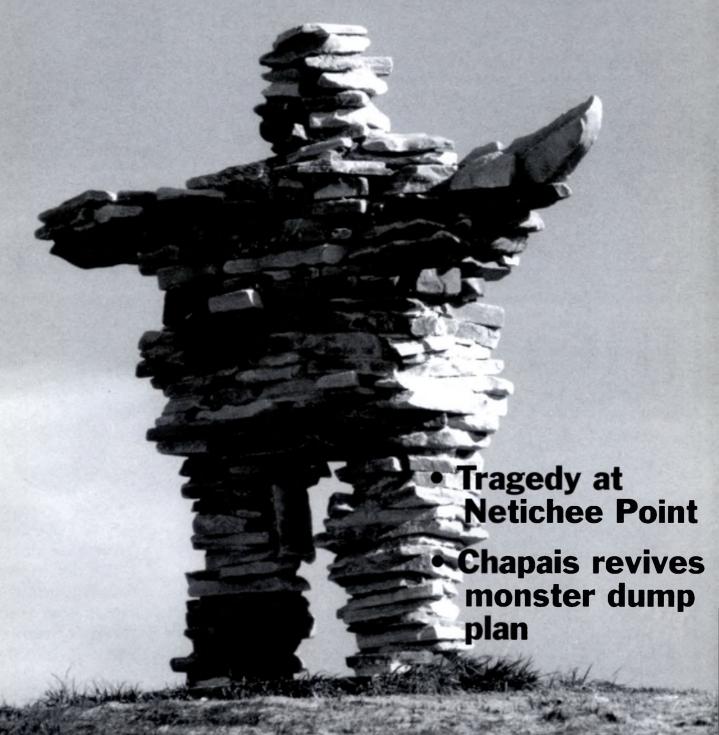
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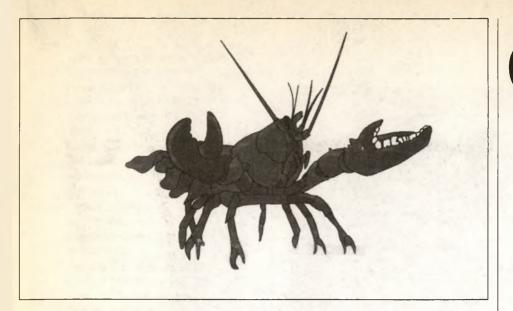
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#### **It isn't only the natives anymore**

You really have to wonder sometimes. My most recent source of confusion arises from the recent Marshall decision by the Supreme Court of Canada. Here's this poor guy, Donald Marshall, Jr., getting his life back together after spending years upon years in jail for a crime he didn't commit, getting arrested for selling eel out of season. Marshall, a Mi'kmaq, was convicted in 1996 for catching and selling fish without a license. He won his appeal to the Supreme Court in that his rights were protected by a 1760 treaty. Lo and behold he wins as the Supreme Court Appeal confirms native treaty rights to offseason fishing. It also allowed Native fishermen to sell their catch and make a modest living from it.

Quickly Native fishermen mobilized and began going after the lucrative lobster trade. That trade, the lobster industry in the Maritimes, is worth a lot. Last year it brought \$51 million into the hands of non-Native fishermen.

Now the anger is really understood. After years of having their rights denied the Mi'kmaq's are now exercising them. This scares the non-Native fishermen and they cry about conservation and over-fishing the lobster. Fears of over-fishing are groundless. Mi'kmag fishermen have an estimated 4,600 traps compared to the non-Native fishermen with 400,000. The Native fishermen have caught 84 metric tons of lobsters. Sounds like a lot until you compare it to the non-Native catch of 5,769 tons. This works out to 1.5 per cent of the commercial catch. If this is going to affect the lobster beds then the fishing industry is in worse shape than we've thought. Conservation should have been thought of a long time ago

of the commercial fishing industry.

But the real problem was the apparent lack of preparedness on the part of the Federal Liberal Government.

You have to wonder at that. An important decision like this was coming up and the Department of Oceans and Fisheries were aware of it? They didn't plan for it? They didn't have their lawyers looking at the case at all?

If this was so then the government was clearly incompetent in this case.

If it wasn't then you have to wonder. Letting the rage gather strength worked well for the government. You had a group of people who used to be neighbors divided. Standard colonial practice that is recognizable to most First Nations but a first for the non-Native fishermen.

By letting the situation get out of hand the Department of Oceans and Fisheries could step in with a harder negotiating stance. One that would be approved by the non-Natives in the region. Never mind that the Mi'kmaq were completely legal in all senses of the word in upholding their rights to fish.

Marshall, who started the whole ball of wax rolling said, "It was the Department of Fisheries and the federal government. And they're the ones. They wanted to see us at war. That's the last thing we want to do. We want to clarify this in a fair way and a positive way."

With the governments actions it is unlikely that anyone will consider whatever plan is introduced as fair and positive. As for the non-Native fishermen, if my hypothesis is true, let me be the first to welcome you to

been thought of a long time ago
when Natives weren't even part

by William Nichols

nialism.

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#### ON THE COVER

Inukshuk by the Great Whale River.

Cover Design: Sylvia Tennisco Photo: N. Diamond reznotes by Ndiamon



The dark days that have too long hung like thick black smog over Creeland are over.

Everything is hunky friggin' dory. There is no bad news to report. The Nation's work here is done. We might have to pack up the tools of our trade and move on. No bad news is no news. Those who whined about this magazine's "negative" coverage can no go on to whine about other whineworthy...er...things.

That's right, Utopia has risen like Phoenix in the place called Creeland/Eeyou Estchee. The people are happy, rich and well fed. The voters can now bear to look to their chiefs with pride and joy. Children can walk safely through the streets of their community without their parents having to worry about drunk Gilles Villeneuve wannabe chiefs running them over. Every single Cree has been awarded an honourary doctorate. Funky days are back again.

Indeed. All our entities are Y2K bugfree and out of the red and into the black, diabetes has been annihilated, employment is running at 90-something percent, the logging companies have fled Creeland in disgust, Hydro Quebec has dismantled all dams and converted the whole operation to solar and wind power. Hallelujah.

Alright. The rivers are teeming with fish to fry, the skies above are filled with flocks and flocks and flocks of geese, overpaid band consultants are boarding south bound planes with pink slips in their leather briefcases, drug dealers have found Jesus and now peddle the good book to children on school play-

grounds, the youth have miraculously lost their taste for the Devil's music, drugs, alcohol and sex, hockey and softball tournaments are starting to look more like bible camp gathering and everyone's a winner, baby.

The federal and provincial governments have had changes of heart and will now honour their treaties, stop their lying ways, and compensate every Cree and their pets, should they own any, for damages incurred. Oh yeah, Cree madhatters have graciously resigned from their second, third, fourth and fifth jobs and can now sleep at nights. Everything's gonna be alright, rock-a-bye...

War is over. Peace will reign for a thousand years. Land stolen from the Indians across the Americas is being given back. Racism is just an ugly memory. Murder is dead. Greed is buried. Sloth has shaped up. Pride has been humbled. Envy has gained self esteem. Gluttony is starving. Satan has been saved. Things are looking up and we're laughin'.

Note:

At this very moment, Rez Notes is being written by a heavily sedated and non-alcoholic, non-drug abusing, non-sexually perverse individual whose name escapes me at the moment (no, it is not Neil Diamond). I would now like to be known as Chris Gaines. Ha, ha, just joking. Things are looking up so much that this reporter is in the mood for a little light jesting. No more cynical blahblahblah...

Oh, did I mention that I won the lottery? With my \$13 million, I have hired Will to...be my "driver." Nation is published every two weeks by Beesum Communications.

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#### RAGEDY ON THE BAY CLAIMS EIGHT LIVES

On Thursday, September 30, two canoes left Moose Factory to go on the traditional goose hunt. The canoes carried 11 people toward Hannah Bay, some 40 miles from Moose Factory.

The trip wasn't an unusual one for the Moose Factory Crees, said Norm Wesley. But this time, one of the boats got swamped about 20 miles out as winds got heavier, said Wesley, who is coordinating communications for the continuing search for the victims.

Only three people survived the accident and eight went missing. Five bodies of the eight have been recovered. Moose Factory and Waskaganish were in shock at the tragedy. Lost were Kenny Echum, Billy Echum, Anita Echum and her three children Michael. Mark and Keisha, and niece Misty Echum all of Moose Factory - and Johnny Namagoose of Waskaganish.

"This is a real tragedy for our community," said Wesley. He said the search will go on until everyone is brought back home.

The accident happened near Netichee Point, which some people call "Cape Fear." The point juts out into a wind-swept part of the bay where the water is very choppy and swirls around in whirlpools. Getting around the point is made harder by a shallow shoal that protrudes out past the point.

Wesley said hundreds of volunteers and thousands of dollars in donations have poured in to help with the search.

"Our primary focus has been recovery of our people. We depend on those people who come forward in helping us," he said. The band hasn't had by William Nicholls

officials to see what financial assistance it will provide.

Wesley said the Ontario Provincial Police have also been helpful in providing 10 people for the ground search and use of a helicopter. Natural Resources also provided helicopter and aircraft during the second week of the search.

About \$110,000 in donations have been made to help Moose Factory with the estimated \$185,000 cost of the search so far.

"To date we've had over 300 volunteers for the ground crew, base camps and command posts. People have been very generous in our community and other First Nations communities and in the south as well." Wesley said.

But the costs are continuing to grow. Wesley said more donations are sorely needed so the search can continue as long as possible.

"There is no discussion at this point in terms of how long are we going to go. We found something two days ago (Oct. 10). We know we're very close to making another recovery," Wesley said.

"We've had people come from as far west as Webeequie (a small First Nations community in Ontario). Eighteen came from that far and they're out in the fleld right now," he said.

"As deep as this tragedy has run through our hearts there has been an outpouring of passion and community togetherness. I've been born and raised here and I've never

seen anything like this. We feel that's God's blessing in the middle of

this tragedy."

### **Chapais** revives plan to import waste

It's back and it's smellier than ever. The city of Chapais is reviving its idea of expanding its garbage dump to import tens of thousands of tonnes of waste from across northern Quebec.

The city's plan would see a nearly 10fold rise in the amount of garbage disposed at its sprawling 75,000-square-metre dump site. Only the city's own garbage is taken there now - about 4,000 cubic metres per

Daniel Dufour, Chapais's secretarytreasurer, said that would rise to 15,000 cubic metres a year if Chibougamau starts sending its garbage. Chibougamau's own dump will run out of space in only four years.

Chapais is also hoping to import garbage from Lebel-sur-Quévillon, Matagami and the Municipalité de la Baie James. Dufour said the extra garbage means the total would be around 30,000 cubic metres per year.

"It would mean the city would receive waste from the entire region," said Dufour.

An earlier plan to import waste from all over Quebec was already the subject of a lot of controversy. A provincial environmental panel rejected that project in 1996.

The panel, with two Cree reps and three from Quebec, had never before turned down a development project in its 18-year existence.

The panel held hearings into the project because the site was on two Cree traplines.

Then-Quebec Environment Minister David Cliche at first overruled the panel's recommendation, giving the plan a thumbsup. But after protests from Crees and Chapais residents, Cliche changed his mind and nixed the idea.

At the time, Ouje-Bougoumou Chief Abel Bosum said he was "outraged" when Cliche okayed the dump. Other Cree officials accused Chapais of wanting to turn the North into Quebec's garbage can.

Sam Bosum, O.J.'s current chief, didn't

continued on page 9

time to meet with government

#### **LETTERS**

#### **MAD** mad

Letter to The Nation:

To all the drug dealers,

This letter is a message to you all out there. It is time your heard what we think about your so-called business.

We are very concerned about the youth of our community and all that has been happening. This concern is not only about how we as parents feel, but how youth feel about their peers.

And selling drugs is definitely not the answer to the problems they have. We love our youth and we want to help them. If you would only stop selling them drugs, this definitely would help.

Our children are very precious to us and we do not want people hurting them or assisting them in destroying their lives, which is exactly what you are doing. You may say to yourselves, "We don't force them to buy from us; it's them who come to us," but you are making this stuff available to them which means they are very open to any kind of danger. And being involved in drugs is dangerous because of the addiction that can control them and destroy their future.



And you may be saying, "This is our way of making money for ourselves," but why don't you make the effort to find jobs where you can make money in an honest way and not by destroying lives. And yyou who have good-paying jobs already, why would you earn extra money just to destroy another person's happiness and life?

Maybe some of you who sell drugs to our youth are parents too, and surely if you had sense enough you wouldn't want anyone to harm your child or children. Take this time to think as a parent and you will understand the reason for this letter.

You know these youth are a gift to us and we are responsible for their future.

So please stop robbing our youth of the potential they have to succeed in all areas of their lives. You know our youth are very gifted, but we must all work together to help them recognize the abilities they have and to make use of these gifts.

We are not judging or condemning you but judge yourselves and be honest about it. How are you affecting the lives of our youth, your children as well?

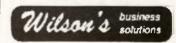
From a very concerned parent on behalf of MAD (Mothers Against Drugs), Mistissini





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#### RADIO FREE CREE: COMING TO A RADIO NEAR U

Cree radio is entering the 21st century in the fast lane of the information highway. Cree radio stations are being equipped with satellite dishes, computers, digital phone lines and high-tech training.

It's all being done to get ready for the launch of the Cree regional radio network some time before March in the year 2000.

For the first time, the Cree radio signal will be controlled from Cree territory, and not Montreal. For years, Cree regional radio shows have been beamed down to Montreal where CBC-North decides what gets on the air and when.

"The CBC has the switch. They give us the schedule. We really have no say. Everything is controlled by the CBC in Montreal. They transmit everything," said Lloyd Cheechoo, executive director of the James Bay Cree Communications Society, a nonprofit association that represents the nine Quebec Cree radio stations and The Nation.

"The JBCCS would like to be independent of the CBC," he said.

When the new Cree radio network goes on the air, local shows can be beamed to the JBCCS studio in Mistissini and broadcast across lylyuuschii. Also, the program schedule will be decided by Crees. "The communities will have the last say," Cheechoo said.

That means programs like CBC-North's show in the choice 7-to-9 a.m. time slot could potentially be moved. This is one of the tough questions facing the new radio network.

"This is prime time that CBC has always had," said Cheechoo. "This still has to be scheduled and decided on." by Alex Roslin

Cheechoo said the Cree net-

work may want to come up with its own morning show. He said the JBCCS has offered to tape the CBC's morning show and air it later in the day, but "they refused that."

Also still to be decided is the schedule for Cree local and regional shows. Some local shows will be aired region-wide, and the JBCCS will try to get funding for some new regional shows, too.

Just how simple all these plans will be is still unclear. Some Cree communities don't have their own transmitters. Instead, they broadcast Cree radio shows on transmitters that the CBC owns in six Cree communities.

And the CBC is refusing to carry all the new Cree shows. "For sure we would not broadcast all the programs from the JBCCS network," said Suzanne Aubin, area manager of CBC-North Quebec.

Cheechoo insisted that the JBCCS has a right to air whatever it wants on the CBC's transmitters because the JBCCS holds the broadcast licenses for these transmitters.

But Aubin denied this. She said the CBC has only granted access to its transmitters until now to the Crees. The CBC will still control what goes on the air on them.

The dispute looks like it will only be resolved when the Crees get their own transmitters in all nine communities. There is no money for that at the moment.

The JBCCS's new equipment was funded with a one-time injection of \$525,000 from the province under the 1995 Memorandum of Understanding agreement.

The centrepiece of the new network is an \$80,000 super-computer to

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#### **Unrest over Marshall** ruling in Maritimes

The Supreme Court's so-called Marshall decision has unleashed a hurricane of unrest in the Maritimes that is being closely watched by First Nations.

The decision reaffirmed the right of the Mi'kmag and Maliseet people to fish lobsters year-round - rights first recognized in an 18th-century treaty.

Mi'kmaq people started putting out traps for the tasty crustaceans, but that upset non-Native fishermen who aren't allowed to catch lobsters now.

The non-Natives took to the water to destroy about 2,000 Native lobster traps. They also torched a sacred arbour in Esgenoopitj (Burnt Church), where spiritual services had been held. A couple of Mi'kmag youths were injured when a non-Native man rammed their pickup after his garage was vandalized.

Twenty-five non-Natives have been charged in connection with the violence.

The non-Natives claimed the Mi'kmag were threatening lobster stocks. But the Globe and Mail reported that non-Native commercial fishermen in the New Brunswick areas of the Gulf of St. Lawrence have close to 400,000 traps in the water.

Since the Marshall decision, Natives had had only 4,600 traps, mostly close to their communities. The New Brunswick Native's catch so far amounts to 84 metric tons which is 1.5 percent of the commercial catch. "Given the small number of Mi'kmag First Nation fishermen, fears of overfishing are obviously exaggerated," wrote Globe columnist Robert Pichette.

The Mi'kmag allege that they were locked out of the lobster fishery before the Supreme Court decision. Native households were granted only permits for only two or three lobster cages. Meanwhile, non-Native fishermen were permitted dozens and even hundreds of traps each.

Other First Nations say the Marshall decision bolsters their land-claims fights.

#### Plutonium shipment opposed

First Nations across Quebec and Ontario are trying to block shipments of highly

continued on page 9

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and November 1, 1998 respectively for the year beginning November 1, 1999.

#### Chapais monster dump...

continued from page 7

return calls about the latest plan.

Dufour said the new plan to import waste is motivated by "financial questions." The city will charge other municipalities a fee for using the site. Dufour couldn't say how much garbage would be imported annually under the new plan.

Michel Tremblay, the city's engineer, said Chapais's dump site has a capacity for 3 million tonnes of garbage. The site is so big it could serve Chapais for 125 to 130 years.

Dufour said the city isn't planning any public hearings into the new plan. He didn't know if approval is needed from environmental panels set up under the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.

In a 1995 poll for the Grand Council, 77 percent of Chapais residents said other parts of Quebec should handle their own garbage problems and not send it to their town. In Chibougamau, 81 percent agreed. Also, 68 percent in Chapais and 83 percent in Chibougamau feared the dump could pollute groundwater and soil in the area.

Many residents supported the project because they believed it would create jobs. But most jobs associated with the project were to come from a recycling facility near the dump that never got off the ground.

Without the recycling part, only 34 percent of Chapais residents said they would back the project.

#### Radio Free Cree...

continued from page 5

be used for on-air production of radio shows. The system has three servers, three monitors, the latest software and enough memory to store the JBCCS's entire music collection.

There is also money for a 10-watt increase in the power of every station's signal. This will make a big difference for stations with half a watt of power, but not much for those with 50,000 watts like Mistissini's CINI-FM.

Cheechoo said one of the main challenges is finding trained personnel to fill the new jobs that will be created. Especially needed are people skilled in journalism, computers and the technical side of radio.

"I would like to encourage the youth or anyone interested in communications to consider it in their education," said Cheechoo. "It's a very important field for the Cree Nation."



They come from a place called the Rock. Great Big Sea at Metropolis Nov. 19.

#### Plutonium shipments...

continued from page 7

radioactive plutonium through their communities.

Kahnawake is concerned about one shipment scheduled to pass through the St. Lawrence Seaway some time this fall.

Also upset is the Serpent River First Nation on the north shore of Lake Huron in Ontario. A second shipment would travel by truck through Serpent River's land.

Both shipments contain a mixture of weapons-grade plutonium and uranium oxide. The U.S. Energy Department wants to ship the material to a Canadian government reactor in Chalk River, Ontario, about 160 kilometres north of Ottawa.

There, the material would be burned in a new experimental procedure.

Canadian and U.S. officials insist the shipments will be safe, though they aren't saying when they will occur because of the potential terrorist threat.

But Chief Earl Commanda of Serpent River said his community doesn't need the added worry because it already suffers from increased rates of lung cancer and thyroid disease since uranium mines opened on its land in the 1950s.

Wildlife has also been decimated by the estimated 250 million tons of uranium-laced waste in the area, Commanda said in an Associated Press report.

The community has joined environmental activists who promise to stop the shipment. "It seems like we've become kind of a nuclear sacrifice zone," said Commanda.

#### **Music from the Rock**

Who would have thought that four friends could "make it" as a band by performing traditional folk music?

The true followers of the band Great Big Sea never doubted it for a moment.

This energetic group of guys perform all kinds of music, but they concentrate on giving Newfoundland's traditional songs their own contemporary style that has made them so popular.

Their original music is beautiful, spirited and unique. Newfoundland is known for its friendly people and beautiful landscapes, and Great Big Sea represents their home with heart and pride.

Voted Entertainer of the Year for four consecutive years at the East Coast Music Awards, Great Big Sea started out playing the Maritime club scene, but soon moved on to the rest of Canada, the States, England, Ireland and Scotland.

By the time they began working on their fourth and most recent album, Turn, they had a gold record, two multi-platinum records and hundreds of sold-out concerts.

With hit songs on the radio and lively and colourful music videos, they continue to gain support from all over the world.

In concert, Great Big Sea is entertaining, fun and full of personality. So, if you and 'da b'ys' aren't at nothing Friday, November 19, head on down to Metropolis (59 Ste. Catherine East) at 8:30 PM for a grand old time

Cheers!

-by Deantha Edmunds

### THE LATE CROW-SKIN RAPIDS

Told by John Petagumskum

I will tell one of the stories I heard from my grandfather. This story took place long ago. North of Whapmagoostui is the river called Naashtipikuu Siipii. It is one of the large rivers that flow up north. This was where the people gathered long ago. Many people camped together during the early spring. I, myself, have witnessed these gatherings during the spring time. Long ago, this was where the people gathered at Naashtipikuu Siipii.

At this gathering, there was an Elder who had one unmarried daughter. I suppose she was the last of his children to be unmarried. His sons where probably all married off by then. This Elder's daughter wanted to live with one of the young men of the camp. The Elder accepted this courtship between his daughter and the young man. But there was an old bachelor at the camp who also had a desire to marry the girl.

On this river are some dangerous rapids that people avoided going through by canoe. No one ever attempted to shoot this set of rapids. I saw those rapids for myself. As the group of people journeyed down the river, these were the rapids that the Elder remembered. The father was annoyed by the old bachelor harassing his daughter but didn't mind the young man to be his son-in-law. So the people paddled along towards these rapids.

Long ago, the people were dressed differently from what we see today. Before any of these modern clothes were around, the Cree people clothed themselves with the skins of animals around them. They used the furs for warmth as coats and leggings. The also made hats with whatever was around. The old bachelor who wanted to marry the daughter wore a cap made from the skin of a crow. He had a crow-skin cap.

When the people reached those rapids, everyone began to portage their belongings to the other side of the rapids. While the canoes were still on the high side of the rapids, the father of the daughter said, "Everyone, be quiet. I'm going to talk to you." He added, "These are the rapids that I thought about as we made our journey. Whoever is successful to go through the rapids by canoe will marry my daughter." Everyone heard what he said. On the sunny shore, where the rapids begin to pull the water is very smooth and low rock. The old bachelor didn't even bother to say anything. He pushed his canoe out into the water and set off. Everyone knew he was going to shoot the rapids.

"As his canoe hit that wave, the old bachelor's canoe pierced into the wave and was pulled down by the current...."



All the people ran down towards the smooth rock shore to watch him shoot the rapids. The young man who also wanted to marry the daughter didn't care what the father had said. So the old bachelor headed for the rapids in his canoe. On these rapids is a large standing wave, curling in the middle. The waves meet from both sides of the river and stand in the middle of these rapids. And the water sinks down into the rapids as it curls. It is that wave that makes these rapids dangerous. These rapids do make other waves but not as big as the centre one. The old bachelor's canoe headed straight towards that wave. As his canoe hit that wave, the old bachelor's canoe pierced into the wave and was pulled down by the current. The last thing the people saw was his crow-skin cap going down into the raging water. Everyone watched to see if anything would float up but they didn't see anything. When they ran down the river, the group didn't see anything float up, not even his paddle.

His crow-skin cap was the last thing to be seen. And that was how the old bachelor died. If he hadn't gone down the rapids, he might have lived to see that evening. He took his own life because he wanted a wife. The young people of that group said that these rapids will be called Kaahkaachuuyaanipin - the Late Crow-Skin. And this is the name of those rapids, Kaahkaachuuyaanipin. The young man married the daughter and the old bachelor wasn't seen again. This is the story my grandfather told.

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### One's Too Many

#### Will Nicholls

Every time I hear about a suicide or attempted suicide I cringe. It's hard to do an article about this subject. I know a little of what people who contemplate suicide may be feeling but I could never really know what the person is going through.

I remember one year when I pretty much suffered a nervous breakdown and dealt with a lot of depression. It was a time in my life when it seemed I was sliding down a deep dark pit and all the light was left at the top out of reach. No one knew what I was going through or what was happening to me. I had this face I turned to the world. It was the face they all knew. It was me before life became so hard that I was just going though the motions. I learnt to fake being me so to speak.

I thought a couple of times how easy it would be just to leave this life behind but I couldn't bring myself to do it. Sometimes for no reason at all I would just cry but never in front of people. I hid my reality from those who cared.

Looking back it was a mistake. If I had opened up I would have had an easier time then figuring it out myself. I needed someone to talk to about how I was feeling.

It was fear that kept me talking. I didn't want people to feel sorry for me, know how weak I felt or that I "was crazy" in some way.

I knew inside of me that they cared and if I were gone they would hurt. Perhaps knowing that I would be hurting others than myself is what kept me away from thinking about suicide and looking for reasons to go on. I was heavily depressed and depression can be one of the warning signs of suicidal behavior.

Suicide rates among Cree are about the same as the rest of Canada. So far Cree communities have been lucky in that they aren't as high as some other First Nations communities. The suicide rate for women is about half of the national average and Crees males about the same. Rates among the Northwest Territories are several times the Cree in Quebec.

Even though these numbers may seem low, even one is too many to my way of thinking.

Not only do we lose someone that we love but the suicide itself causes emotional trauma and suffering that extends beyond the immediate family members to the community itself. It hurts far more than if the person had passed on for other reasons. It has long-term effects for the present and future generations.

In the communities we are seeing a lot of parasuicides. These are attempts to commit suicide. This is serious because people may die as a result of their attempt and usually the person doesn't know how to talk about the inner problems or may need help in talking about unmet needs. During a ten-year study 8% of all hospitalizations for injuries were for parasuicides. Since many victims of parasuicide are never hospitalized there may be as many as 18 people needing help for everyone that ends up in a hospital. During the ten years studied there were 80 hospitalizations meaning there could have been as many as 1440 attempts.

We have to remember that people approach suicide with ambiva-



lence. Ambivalence is when at the same time you have contradictory attitudes or feelings (as attraction and repulsion) towards an action. It is when you are uncertain as to which approach to follow. Suicidal People are like this. They want to relieve the suffering they feel but dying is the only means that the person can think to stop it. When you're helping someone and they say they want to die they are approaching that stage. It may seem difficult to think we can help because they seem so convinced, but we need to offer other solutions.

I talked to someone who said, "I just happened to be there." This person had talked another person out of a suicide attempt. "It was very important to me. I had just stopped drinking and was wondering how we can help and how do we go about it? I was shown I could help.

Although I was never shown what to do I found out I had did everything right by talking to the person and making a connection until they asked me to help them. It was then I convinced this person to come towards me so I could help the person. I felt the creator was on my side during this. I felt I wouldn't have been able to handle it if I had still been drinking. I wouldn't have been there.

When I got home I told my children I loved them a lot because it was hard to see another person suffering so much. There's no heroism in what I did. It's no joking matter. It affects your life and it really makes you aware of the world."

"I felt the creator was on my side during this. I felt I wouldn't have been able to handle it if I had still been drinking. I wouldn't have been there."

Without training this person had made all the right moves. Concern was shown as well as an attempt to understand the unhappiness that led to the attempt. A climate of warmth, acceptance and trust was established. In all of us there is a strong desire to live.

The question is how do we recognize someone who may be suicidal? It is difficult as they can hide it well. Some of the symptoms might be sleeplessness, or oversleeping, loss of weight because of a loss of appetite, stopping the usual social activities, giving away of prized possessions, avoiding or withdrawing away from friends, lack of interest in personal appearance, crying spells, being self-critical, sudden moodswings, self-mutilation, aggressiveness and talking about death.

There are books out there to help people. One of them is "Step Back From the Exit: 45 reasons to Say No to Suicide" by J. Arena. It provides reasons why you shouldn't think of suicide. I've summarized some of them and tried to put them in plain English for you.

I. It's serious and when I consider my feelings seriously, others can too.

- 2. I need to look at the world less seriously and laugh at it more. I can laugh at things and I should find more to laugh at.
- 3. People like me the way I am. I don't have to change unless I want to.
- **4.** There are many experiences I have never had or could have and I want them.
- **5.** I should get checked out. There may be a chemical imbalance that is making me think like this.
- **6.** I may have a vitamin deficiency. I should get vitamins and have myself checked out at the CLSC.
- 7. I have trouble sleeping. Making sure someone couldn't sleep is an old way to torture someone. If I haven't had a restful night I shouldn't make such important decisions.
- **8.** I'm drinking too much. This lowers my inhibitions. This might let my suicidal tendencies to overwhelm and defeat me.
- 9. The world needs more, not fewer, people who of determination and courage who have faced death and said "not yet." I will be one of them.
- 10. To think the world would be perfect or better off without me is ridiculous.

- II. Perhaps I need to learn I can't control everything that goes on in my life.
- 12. I wouldn't want to hurt anyone else and I might kill a would-be rescuer, innocent bystander, friend or family member in my attempt.
- 13. Funerals are expensive. On top of the grief I will be causing I will cause financial hardship.
- 14. Suicide implies I know everything but I'm not the Creator so I don't.
- 15. Committing suicide is a sin and Hell might even be worse than
- 16. Suicide is just bad manners. It's dropping in on the Creator without an invitation.
  - 17. Other choices exist, including making no choice at all.
  - 18. I might end up a ghost in limbo and have no way to change it.
- 19. Those who have near death experiences after suicide attempts report regret for what they did and a renewed commitment to life. I should talk with them.
- **20.** If there is reincarnation I might come back and suffer this again. I should learn from this so it doesn't happen again.
- 21. Whether I like it or not I am a role model, discouraging and encouraging others by my behavior,
- **22.** Children, spouse, brothers, sisters and family all need me in some way.
- **23.** Suicide disturbs even casual acquaintances. How will affect those closer to me? It will hurt more.
- **24.** Suicide denies me the opportunity to find out how much love there is in the world and how much there is in me.
  - 25. What if I don't die and severely disable myself instead?
  - **26.** What if I die when I only meant to cry for help?
- 27. Even a court would not say I deserved capital punishment for my actions.
- **28.** If someone else is acting in a bad or abusive way to me it shouldn't mean I should have to die for it.
- **29.** There may not be hope right now but something magical or miraculous might happen any minute. Life itself is a miracle.
- **30.** The highest priority is survival, not the overwhelming facts of life.
- **31.** Sometimes what I do to make me feel better makes me feel worse. I have to recognize my emotions aren't always my best friend.
- **32.** Although my life looks worthless right now, I am curious to discover its true worth.
- **33.** There is meaning in my suffering and I want to find that meaning.
- **34.** Suicide is a lie and a cover-up for the pain in my life. I want to find the truth of my life.

Not all of those reasons will apply to a specific person and there are some I've left out.

In any case I hope that anyone out there will know that you can discuss problems with people and people can listen and help. If you do not feel you can talk to anyone in your community there are some phone numbers you can try. The people on the other end are usually volunteers who want to help just as much as you are asking for help. No more and no less. One person I talked to said the most disappointing thing they felt was when someone would phone and just hang up. Remember there are a limited number of people on duty. If you do not wish to leave your phone number so they can call you back, then call back yourself until you get a live operator. Do not be afraid to call anywhere, even out of province.

Cont'd from page 13

#### For the Eastern James Bay region

Centre de prevention de suicide for Saguenay: 1-800-463-9869 or 1-418-545-1919 (24 hours a day, seven days a week, French language only)

Suicide-Action Montreal: 1-514-723-400 (24 hours a day, seven days a week) (French/80% time English operator)

Tel Aide Outaouais: 1-800-567-%99 or 1-613-741-6433 (French)

Centre d'aide 24/7: 1-819-895-9999 (French)

Ottawa 1-613-238-3311 (English)

For central and western James Bay (all operators speak English)

Distress Center 1-613-238-3311

**Distress Center 416-598-1121** 

Distress Center 416-486-1456

Distress Center 519-821-3760

Distress Center 519-256-5000

In the Cree communities you can walk into the clinic and talk to a doctor, nurse, social worker or psychologist. These talks are all confidential. A psychologist visits the communities 4-5 times a year.

In Quebec, except for Suicide-Action Montreal, only French services are funded for suicide crisis lines. In Ontario no funding exists for toll free numbers. Most suicide prevention centres are staffed by volunteers and fundraise their own operating budgets. Suicide Prevention Hotlines do not mind if you are not in the area that they normally serve.

In the Cree communities nine out of ten people who committed suicide were male. Five out of the ten were males between the ages of 25 to 39 years old. Forty per cent of parasuicides were male while sixty per cent were women. 77% of the males and 47% of the women were reported to be drunk when the incidents occurred.

Parasuisides or attempts are extremely rare in the bush.

An alarming fact is that incidents involving young Crees and firearms are on the rise. A Cree Health Board study recommended that safe storage of firearms in the communities be implemented and followed out.

I wish to thank all those who helped out in this article: Myra from the Suicide Information and Education Center (403-245-3900), Suicide-Action Montreal's Lynda Peers, Dr. Elizabeth Robinson of the Cree Health Board and other health representatives, the people who came forward with their experiences but wished anonymity and the Creator for the strength to write this article.

I wish to say one final thing; no human being is ever really alone, it's just a matter of reaching out to someone. You will find your burden is shared and weighs less than before because of that. All problems can be surmounted with assistance but it is necessary that you seek that assistance. At some point in time if you have a problem you may have to seek professional help. There is nothing to be ashamed of in doing this. I know many people who have and have become better people because of it. I wish you well on the paths you have chosen in life.

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### A word about plants

#### By Lindsey Cote

As kids during the summer we used to spend most our time doing the tadpole thing, meaning that we spent as much time in the water as we possibly could. I am proud to say that my children are gladly following in that tradition. In fact, if I didn't know better, I'd swear that my youngest daughter, who is two, is part frog she is so at home in the water, whether it's her bath or a lake.

However, spending time in whatever body of water we'd find was not the only activity with participated in.

Summertime was also the time of year our Elders took the time to show us some of the finer things in life.

Knowledge of plants was on the top of the list when it came to learning about the outdoors at this time of year. I was fortunate at times in my young life to have Elders who felt that being tutoured in the special uses of different plants was important. They used to tell me, "Someday you might need this plant to save your life."

I have to confess, however, that in my youthful ignorance I didn't spend a whole lot of time listening to what they were saying and trying to teach me. I was a bit of a dreamer and, most of the time, my mind was far away planning some sort of adventure in some strange land. Needless to say, sometimes the Elder instructing me, often one of my grandmothers or my grandfather, would bring me sharply back to reality using a variety of embarrassing ways. Nothing that hurt my skin. Instead they found ways that did a number on my pride. Mostly they'd spring a surprise test on me by asking me to tell them what they had just told me. More times than not, I couldn't.

We didn't just get a teaching on what plant was used for what. Our excursions were more often like a royal tour, in that we never just went straight to the plant source and back. Instead, my teacher would treat our outing like an adventure, which in a way I realize now it was. We sometimes packed a lunch and my job, other than to pay attention, was to carry the backpack and tea pail (which always came along) to whereever the plant was that we were searching for. It was fun in a way because we were off on safari in our own backyard.

My Algonquin and Ojibway grandfather and grand-mothers more often than not made my learning fun by providing a unique sense of humour. The older folks in the community had and still have a way of keeping you in stitches while at the same time instilling in you lessons about the finer things in life. This was and still is a good combination of tutoring. It is also the Native way of teaching. It made it easy and fun for us to learn life-saving teachings about what plant life was readily avail-

able in the bush at any given time of the year.

A plant is more than a plant and a tree is more than tree. And every plant and tree have a use, at least that's what I was taught. As a child, teachings come to you in all sorts of different ways and most of the time from the hands of experience. Books were not the number one way to be educated, at least not for anyone living in remote, semi-isolated locations. Learning to survive on what ever was of a your disposal was a rule of thumb.

The bush and its caretakers, our grandparents, are great teachers of the healing properties of plant and trees. Non-Native nations are now realizing and utilizing the healing properties found in our natural world that have been known and used for centuries by Native peoples. My grandfather used to tell me that we didn't have a pharmacy to go to and we'd didn't need one as the bush was our drugstore.

If you know someone who is knowledgeable in the healing properties of plants and trees, find the time to learn from them; the gifts they share with you are invaluable. Don't ask me too many questions about plants and trees and their medicinal uses. Remember I was the one dreaming through the lessons. Besides, I'm still a few plants shy of a bush. Until next time, enjoy the hidden treasures of our great outdoors.



third annual survey (deadline: Oct. 25)

### SQUEMENT LATELY SQUENTE

Best Community

Contribution (Man)

Best Hunter

Best Fisher Best Community Contribution (Woman) Best Storyteller Most Outstanding Elder Best Square Dancer

Most Outstanding Youth Best Looking Community Most Outstanding Tallyman Cree Closest to

Sainthood

Best Band Council Sexiest Cree Best Politician Best Dressed Cree Best Checkers/Chess Best Cree Media (person Player or organization) Best Pool Player Best Cultural Contribution Nicest Smile Best Artist Funniest Cree Best Cree Musician Best Nickname Best Coach Coolest Vehicle Best Cook Worst (make your own category) Best School Best Pickup Line Best Teacher Best Expression (Slang) Best Athlete

### Really, really amazing prizes to be announced!!!

Fill in to be eligible

Name: Phone:

Please fax to (514) 278-9914 (see mail address on p.

Best Goose Plucker

October 22, 1999

### SOUTH AT MUSHO)

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|      | Best Book                                      |
|------|--|
|      | Best Rock Band/Musician                        |
|      |  |
|      | Other: Best Movie                              |
| s    | □ Wal-Mart                                     |
|      | ☐ Hallmark ☐ Mitchou                           |
|      | □ Wachiya                                      |
|      | Other: Best Gift Shop                          |
|      | ☐ Meubles Sélections<br>☐ Ikea                 |
|      | ☐ Meubles Marchand                             |
|      | Other: Best Furniture                          |
|      | ☐ Bijouterie Val d'Or                          |
|      | ☐ Bijouterie Riche Or<br>☐ Bijouterie Baribeau |
| ·P   | Best Jewelry Store                             |
| ор   | Other:   |
|      | ☐ Diane Fleuriste                              |
|      | Best Flower Shop  Hélène Fleuriste             |
| 3 25 | Other:   |
| 18   | ☐ Jaymore's ☐ St. Hubert Street Plazza         |
|      | Best Bridal Shop                               |
|      | Au coin des petits Other:                      |
|      | ☐ The Gap for Kids                             |
|      | ☐ Petit Luptin☐ Géant des Aubaines             |
|      | Best Children's Clothes                        |
|      | ☐ Toys 'R' Us ☐ Dollarama<br>Other:            |
|      | <b>Best Toy Store</b>                          |
|      | Other:   |
|      | ☐ Metro ☐ Loblaws                              |
|      | Other:  Best Grocery Store                     |
|      | ☐ Air Wemindji ☐ Air Taig                      |
|      | Best Airline  Air Creebec                      |
|      | Other:   |
|      | ☐ Gareau ☐ Barraute ☐ Veillete & Johnson       |
|      | ☐ Hardy Ringuette ☐ Aubé                       |
| wa   | Best Auto Dealer                               |
|      | Ou J'ai des Sports Other:                      |
| 8    | ☐ Mario Monger ☐ Beric Sport ☐ Indoho          |
|      | Best Snowmobile Dealer                         |
|      | Other:   |
|      | ☐ Confortel ☐ L'Escale ☐ Kanio-Kashee Lodge    |
|      | □ Journey's End □ Eskers                       |

### Hear ye, hear ye

By proclamation of The Nation, in collaboration with the Cree School Board, we proudly announce the

## 6TH ANNUAL STUDENT ESSAY CONTEST Y2K EDITION

The deadline is hereby and forthwith deemed to be:

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## The Grand Council and Cree Regional Authority would like to hear from you

We would like to have your comments on forestry, mining and other resource issues. If you have comments relating to these issues please email: cree@igs.net

Or write to:
Grand Council of the Crees
Resource Issues
24 Bayswater Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario
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#### UNDER THE NORTHERN SKY

### On the Greens

#### By Xavier Kataquapit

The last place I expected to be this past week was following a whole bunch of people around a golf course. In the past when I thought of golf courses this image did not really include First Nations people in Northern Ontario. In my mind golf has always been one of those sports that somebody else plays and for some reason I always considered golf clubs as some kind of country club environment.

Happily, I'm glad to report to you that another myth has just exploded in my face. Not only did I attend the fifth annual Wabun Tribal Council Scholarship Fund Golf Tournament in Timmins, I also watched and was entertained by many of the First Nations people who came to play at this fund-raising event.

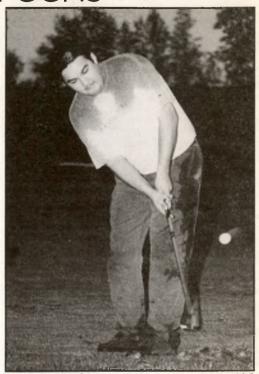
This tournament, which has become annual event, is yet another example that First Nations people can do whatever they want and if the interest includes golf, so be it. Now I have to admit that it was a little funny at times watching some of my friends try to get the hang of this game. There were a lot of swings that didn't look so graceful and a lot of loud hollers when balls were hit and sent near where they were expected to go.

Thanks to the good people at Wabun Tribal council and especially Shawn and Jason Batise, this popular annual tournament has become a success. Shawn and Jason are what I consider pretty good golfers and I would guess that they really love this sport. I can see they take great pleasure in being able to introduce what was once considered an elitist sport to their First Nations friends. Their rewards were certainly provided with a happy group of people who got a lot of exercise, socialized and at the same time raised funds for a good cause. It was good to see so many people, both Native and non-Native, show up to support his First Nations tournament.

It was also a chance for people from other parts of the province to come north and, through a day on the course, get to know some of us Northerners. Kevin Martin, owner of First Nations Engineering Services, based in Six Nations at Oshwekon, told me he was thrilled with his day in Timmins and that he really appreciated the hospitality at the Wabun event. He was a accompanied by Warren Sault, executive director of Mississauga New Credit, who also seem to be very satisfied to spend sometime with First Nations members in the North.

I saw many of my Ojibway and Cree friends out on the course that day and I must admit I was surprised at how fast they caught on to this game. A couple of times I saw myself standing in places that weren't the best for my safety, considering that these little white balls really speed through the air. I got a great kick out of watching Rose Anne Ojeebah and Marjorie Miller, both of Wabun Tribal Council, as they raced along like old pros in their nifty golf cart.

I guess the best part about Wabun's golf tournament was that all the money that was raised goes to scholarships for three Wabun students this year. A big meegwetch is in order for the organizers of the tournament and all those who showed up to support it. I know this event is yet another example of how good things can be.



A Rain-soaked Jacky Papatens at the Dorval Golf Gardens

#### QUÉBEC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT

#### PLANS DEPOSITED

The Québec department of transport hereby gives notice that an application has been made to the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans under the Navigable Waters Protection Act for approval of the plans and site of the work described herein.

Under Section 9 of the said Act, The Québec department of transport, has deposited with the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, and in the office of the District Registrar of the Land Registry District of Ungava district at Sept-Iles under deposit numbers 88804, 88805, 88806, 88807 and 88808 a description of the sites and plans of one (1) planned culvert on Nastimistech Kauchipischeyach stream, of two (2) planned culverts on tributary (unnamed) of Nastimistech Kauchipischeyach stream, and two (2) planned culverts on Kaipeyach stream. These three (3) streams will be crossed respectively on kilometres 81,4 - 83,9 and 91,6 of the Waskaganish access road.

This project was reviewed and accepted pursuant to the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.

Written objections based on the effect of the work on marine navigation should be directed not later than one month from the date of this notice to: Regional Director, Canadian Coast Guard, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, 101 Champlain Blvd., 3rd Floor, Québec QC G1K-7Y7.

Saint-Lambert, October 14, 1999

Léon Hardy, Poly-Géo inc.

#### The Problem With Tournaments

#### A grandmother writes

It's now time to address the issue and the need for others to be aware of what really goes on during tournaments.

I once heard an Elder who made this comment about our tournaments - how our youth and adult behaviour get out of hand in tournaments, referring to the severe abuse of alcohol among our people.

It's sad to see the youth - Native peopleout on severe binges, fighting, as well as the adulterous affairs that go on in these tournaments which has resulted in many of the broken homes in our communities. For most youths and adults it's a time for them to go out and meet new friends or to see their old friends from other communities. It's also a time to go out to be at parties all night long. Never does it cross anybody's mind that it is the most dangerous time, when youth and adult behaviour get out of hand in needless fights among themselves.

Tournaments have been around for some time in our nine communities and outside places like Val d'Or, Amos and Chibougamau. Others go outside other regions to compete in other tournaments.

At the beginning of these tournaments, alcohol was served in arenas like in Val d'Or and Amos. Then the alcohol and drugs were prohibited but the consumption of alcohol is still abused by some of the Native youths and adults.

Sad to say, too, poor sportsmanship is still portrayed among the players, teams and fans in these tournaments. Take, for instance, the negative or sarcastic comment made about this player or that team or about the community they're from. Also not to mention the untold damages that have occurred in these motel rooms because of the parties that were held there.

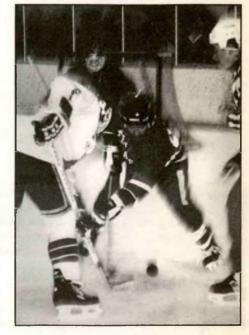
The reason I want to address what is really going on in the tournaments and to have others speak out about what is really happening out there is to help others see the need to have more security outside the arenas, in the streets.

Communities should also be taken into consideration. There is also a lot of violence going on in our communities when there are tournaments or other events such as weddings, etc. These are just a few of the stories of what happened to those who have gone to

tournaments. A young woman unconsciously froze to death after she had been ganged up on by other women. Such a tremendous loss for her children - they no longer have a mother - and for the close family members as well.

There was another incident when some non-Native youth of Val d'Or armed with baseball bats were involved in getting revenge on the Natives during a senior tournament. Then this one for me is more personal; my 16-year-old son was beaten up by four guys. When I was informed of what had happened I was full of anger and sadness about what Natives were doing to each other. At the same time I was thinking to myself, "Why is there so much violence displayed among our youths and adults?"

In the last baseball tournament in Val d'Or I stayed out 'till 6 a.m. to observe what was going on out there. Whenever someone would finish their beer bottle, they would just throw it out on the street. Busted beer bottles would be all over the streets. Others were having parties in their rooms with a bunch of their friends. Then there were fights that broke



"Busted beer bottles would be all over the streets. Others were having parties in their rooms with a bunch of their friends. Then there were fights that broke out here and there."

out here and there.

Must not forget to mention the bootleggers who are there after closing time. Taxi drivers and other Native bootleggers take advantage of profiting from these tournaments.

I went to the police station in Val d'Or to inform them that it was expected there was going to be a gang fight. They just told me to call them if they should fight.

I know, too, there has been a lot of injustice with how the Native people have been treated by the municipal police. Natives who have been thrown in jail have their own stories to tell of how they were treated in there.

Maybe the solution to tournaments outside our communities is that we should have some of the constables from our communities patrol the streets. If not the constables, then more security guards out on the streets.

We shouldn't have to wait 'till someone is beaten to death in a tournament or in our communities. We need more concerned parents, citizens who don't want to see this happening in our tournaments or in our communities. Maybe, too, measures such as assault charges should be taken against those who are reported in these fights. We should not have to tolerate this violence in our tournaments or in our communities. Doesn't anybody out there care about what is happening? Don't wait 'till something happens to your son or daughter or whomever you care about. Life is too short to have it end that way. Some-

times it never hits us until we lose someone we love. Only then do we know how precious one's life can be.

The next question I asked myself is where is this anger coming from among our Native people that is so displayed when they are under the influence of alcohol? One theory of where it comes from may have a lot to do with their childhood. Children raised in alcoholic or violent homes experienced a loss of their childhood. Growing up in a family or in a community where everyone drank to an excess, they grow up thinking that it is normal to have parties that first start out with lots of laughter and then later turn into a bloody fight. Hearing the desperate cries of wanting the beating to end and the sounds of bottles being shattered is a traumatic experience. These are the memories they have carried from their childhood days of when their parents once drank and the fights that they witnessed or the sounds of the fights that broke out at a drunken party in the middle of the night in their home. There are issues that could be covered but that would take too long.

Another growing concern for social workers who are involved or concerned about the safety of our children is that we always have to prepare ourselves by advising some families to be on standby in case of a crisis during tournaments. We have a tendency to expect the

worst in times like this.

It's now time to change our history of how we are now going to raise our children and future generations. Parents, grandparents, teachers and leaders have to be rolemodels of our future generation. We need to teach our children to respect others. It is important to give them a sense of belonging and an identity of who they are. Children need to be loved and valued by their parents for we are the primary caregivers of these precious gifts given to us by the Creator. Husbands and fathers need to treat their wives and children with love and respect. Also to provide and care for their family, and the same can be said for the wives and mothers out there. We need to value each other in this life, for our life here is only a brief stay. In God's word, our life is compared to a vapour; it's there, then it's gone.

I want to end by saying that I look forward to going to minor tournaments to watch my granddaughters play broomball. I also get excited when there's a good hockey game at the arena when it's played in good sportsmanship. I hope this article will have others concerned as well. We all need to look out for each other, not just to turn our heads the other way as if nothing is happening.

#### Anonymous, Chisasibi





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### INMET

#### POSTING #070: MECHANICAL FOREMAN (PERMANENT) (MAINTENANCE)

The Troilus Division is presently searching for a MECHANICAL FOREMAN (MAINTENANCE) to join their young and dynamic management team. The Troilus Division is a gold and copper open pit mine with a mill capacity that has been upgraded to 15, 000 tpd. The mine site is located at 175 km north of Chibougamau by way of the "Route du Nord." The selected candidate will work on a 7-7 schedule (7 days of work, 7 days off) or a 4-3 schedule (4 days of work, 3 days off), and will be lodged at the site's first quality camp.

#### Required qualifications:

The incubent must have completed a three year course in heavy equipment mechanics (diesel) or in other related field. He must have a minimum of 5 years experience in supervision along with work experience with Caterpillar and/or Demag equipment. The incubent must have Technical knowledge on "wet iron welding" and on "millright." He must have a good knowledge of french and english (spoken and written). Supervision knowledge in cross-cultural environment and a basic knowledge of cree language are assets.

#### Main responsibilities:

- Supervises and coordinates the mechanical and repair activities on the mining equipment according to the needs of the mine department;
- Establishes working methods to assure the respect of the safety regulations, the working quality measures, and the deadlines;
- Makes sure that all the costs under his responsibility meet the department budget;
- Works in a close collaboration with the planner especially concerning the preventative replacement of the components;
- Resolves the technical problems along with the human resources concerns with the support of the available resources and applies the related corrective measures;
- Assures follow-up relating to applicable environmental issues;
- Assures respect of health and Safety rules and regulations;
- Performs other related duties.

#### Particularities and remuneration:

Inmet Mining Corporation offers a competitive salary. The position is addressed to men and women. Inmet Mining Corporation encourages the hiring of Crees and thanks all applicants for their interest, but advises that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Those interested are to send their Curriculum vitae, not later than **November 6, 1999** to:

Human Resources Department Inmet Mining Corporation Troilus Division P.O. Box 8700 Chibougamau (Quebec) G8P 3A9

(Please indicate the posting number on your envelope)

### INMET

#### POSTING # 072: MINING TECHNICIAN (PERMANENT) (ENGINEERING/GEOLOGY)

The Troilus Division is presently searching for a SURVEY TECHNICIAN (ENGINEERING/GEOLOGY) to join their young and dynamic management team. The Troilus Division is a gold and copper open pit mine with a mill capacity that has been upgraded to 15,000 tpd. The mine sit is located at 175 km north of Chibougamau by way of the "Route du Nord." The selected candidate will work on a 7-7 schedule (7 days of work, 7 days off) and will be lodged at the site's first quality camp.

#### Required qualifications:

The candidate must have completed a two to three year college program in surveying or mining technology and have two to five (2-5) years experience in a surface mining environment. He must have computer knowledge in Autocad, Excel, Access, spreadsheets and Word processing. He must also have working knowledge of French.

#### Main responsibilities:

- Conducts field surveys and operates survey instruments to measure distances, angles, elevation and contours;
- Records measurements and other information obtained during field survey and activities;
- Analyses latitude, longitude and angles and computes trigonometrical and other calculations to plot features, contours and areas to a specific scale;
- Prepares detailed drawings, charts and plans and survey notes and reports;
- · Supervises and co-ordinates field survey activities;
- Undertakes quantity surveys;
- Lays out and picks-up blast holes;
- · Compiles and updates daily production data;
- Manages and reports a multitude of production data and statistics.

#### Particularities and remuneration:

Inmet Mining Corporation offers a competitive salary. The position is addressed to men and women. Inment Mining Corporation encourages the hiring of Crees and thanks all applicants for their interest, but advises that only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

Those interested are to send their Curriculum vitae, not later

than November 6, 1999 to:

Human Resources Department
Inmet Mining Corporation
Troilus Division
P.O. Box 8700
Chibougamau (Quebec)
G8P 3A9

(Please indicate the posting number on your envelope)

#### REGGIE MARK: THE INTERVIEW

Reggie Mark is the new chief of Wemindji. To get the job he did what many before him couldn't. He unseated Walter Hughboy, who had been chief for 21 years, longer than any other Cree chief in power at the time. Mark's first weeks on the job have been very busy. We caught up with him earlier this month.

#### By Alex Roslin

#### Congratulations.

Thank you very much.

It sounds like you've already got a lot to do. Did you expect there would be this much to do when you were running for chief?

In a way. But not that much at the beginning. I think it would be a slow integration into the office. But as it turned out, we got sworn in and the next day we took the office.

#### And you've been busy ever since.

I've been busy updating myself on different files, and I updated the new council members as much as I could at the same time as myself.

The election may have been kind of a surprise for the old chief, who was there for so long. Have you had a chance to speak with him after the election?

I would rather not make any comments on that.

#### Can you say what you stood for in the election?

At the beginning of the campaign, I said that a priority would be given on some of the social problems we're having in the community. For example, the alcohol and the family situations. These would be the priority - to improve the community life. Because when it came to weekends, it was terrible. It affected my family, my grandchildren, and being in the community it affected a lot of people. People would talk about it and the message I was reading from that was they seemed so helpless, they couldn't do anything about it. So I basically came out and said we would have to deal with it. But the community has to support me, and we have to deal with it as a community for it to work.

#### What possible things can be done?

First of all, what I did was the first week in office, in the afternoon, I made myself available to the people to come in and talk with me individually, or as a family or as a group. I was seeking where they saw the problem, and the kind of solutions to handle the situation. The people were very, very helpful in that.

There was a general assembly of the Cree Health Board a few months ago, and they talked about the lack of services for some of the social issues in the communities. Do you think there has to be more resources to deal with those types of issues, or it has to be done in a better way?

I was not at the general assembly, and I have never seen a report

from the general assembly. But locally, there are services available for some of these social issues, and they weren't used effectively. One of the things that came out here was the health committee - I said I would revive it, and the people have to set the mandate, what they expect from the health committee. And these health committee members would be elected instead of appointed. We're in the process of trying to address some of these other problems that are related to the social life.

I remember a while ago there were some concerns in the community about how the Sakami Fund was being administered. Do you have any views on that yourself? Do you think there's a danger that the money might be disappearing too fast?

Next week, our treasurer is going to give us all the financial stuff. Right now, I wouldn't feel comfortable making any comment on it.

As you know, there's been a lot of discussion about having a new hydro-electric project. Some of the communities wanted to negotiate with Hydro-Quebec by themselves, without involving the Grand Council. Do you think it's been handled properly until now?

First of all, in my campaign I invited people to come in and make their comments on future hydro projects like EM-1. But I felt that there was not enough information flowing to the people. This office, we're going to set it up so there is a lot of information going to the people, where they participate. And I basically said that I would not come up with whether I support it, but I would listen to the people.

Looking at things from the Cree Nation perspective, all the nine communities, what do you think are the main issues as we go into the next millennium?

The first issue I think is the unity question. I do believe that all the Crees should be united. Also, when you talk about the regional entities, we have to start working together with the regional entities in joint ventures. Then you have a very strong unity in the end, where all the Cree entities - whether they're regional or local - it's all for the Crees. At the end, at the Grand Council level you end up with a very strong unity. We have to be united.

Do you think right now the local entities, like some local companies, and the regional entities don't work well enough together, or compete against each other?

I think they compete quite a bit. Basically, it's Cree money against Cree money. Whereas, they should be together and work for the benefit of the Cree Nation for employment.

#### Do you have any final thoughts you want to share?

I would like to say I'm very pleased with our present council. It's a mixture of youth, people who are harvesting, who follow the traditional life, and it's young, middle-aged and a little bit older. I want to thank the people of Wemindji and I hope they keep supporting us. We just need time.

#### CLASSIFIEDS

#### 100 BIRTHS

A baby boy came into this world on the fifth of September. The baby's name is Brandan. The proud parents are Louise Hester and Glenn Wadden. And baby brother for Demi, Delci. Hey Demi, help your mom with your sister, brother while your dad is working. Hey guys thank the Lord. He has blessed you with a baby son and your daughters Demi, Delci. God bless your family. With love, Edith, Darla Hester. P.S. Louise, Glenn, when is the wedding day?

Congratulations going out to Reginald Gilpin and Arlene Swallow on the arrival of their beautiful baby girl Hannah Faith Emma on September 1st , 1999 in Vald'Or. From the Gilpin family. Chisasibi.

#### 101-BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to a sweet little boy. His name is Tyrus D. Happyjack. Celebrating his first birthday Oct. 19. Hope you have fun on your special day. With lots of love, hugs and kisses. Bobby, Pauline and cuz Shaquille.

Sending out this special birthday greeting to our handsome little man Jarvis Matches on Sept 17th. Happy first birthday and many more birthdays to come. We love you so much! Many many hugs and kisses to you. With lots of love from your mommy Karen and your Daddy Ryan. Chisasibi.

Happy first birthday to my little brother Tyrus. May God bless you and watch over you because I miss you so much. Hope to see you and mommy and Sharona soon. Love always, Clarissa D. Happyjack.

We would like to wish Aaron Iserhoff of Chisasibi a happy first birthday on September 18 and many more to come. Love, Karen, Ryan and Jarvis

Happy birthday to a silly bonkey Oct. 22. This silly bonkey is from Nemaska, he's short and loves to bug people. The silly bonkey is my adorable little nephew Andy Wapachee. Andy you are getting to be a big boy, almost ready for school too, I just want to wish you all the happiness and have fun on your birthday. Hope I get a big piece of your cake. I love you silly bonkey. Your aunt, Charlotte.

Happy birthday to Sarah Blueboy on Oct. 3. Marion Gilpin and Roland Blueboy on Oct. 15. Happy birthday to all of you and many more to come! From Michelle and Miranda. Waskaganish

Happy third birthday to Matthew Duff(Matthewsh) on Sept. 17. We enjoyed your chocolate birthday cake. Happy birthday and many more to come. Hope your enjoyed your birthday present. Love always, Karen, Ryan and Jarvis (Jarvee)

Happy belated 13th birthday to my

sweet daughter Virginia Saganash. She was celebrating her 13th birthday on September 17. It seems like just yesterday you were born. That's how fast you are growing up. You brought a lot of happiness and joy into our lives. We are sorry we couldn't be there on your special day and we'll always love you and will always be there for you no matter what. All our love, mom, your brothers John and Darryl and sister Patricia Saganash.

Our little brother Darius Robert Miyobino Moar is turning 3 on Oct. 15. We want the Nation readers know that we want to wish am very very happy birthday and may he have many more birthdays to come! We just want to say to that we every proud to have him as a little brother and that we love and adore him very much. We wouldn't trade him for anything else in this whole wide world. We also love the way he sings and plays the drums and guitar. Maybe one day you'll be a singer or a musician, so Darius don't give up on the drums and quitar, keep in up little brother. Maybe someday you'll be hearing him down at his own concert. Thumbs up little brother! Love you from Steve and Candi. PS to Santa, Darius wants a guitar and drums or any musical instrument for Christmas, because he's using his brother's drums and quitar.

Happy first birthday to our daughter Miranda Harmony Amber Blueboy on Oct. 17. May God bless and keep you always and may your wishes all come true! All our love, a mommy and Daddy (Michelle and Rod) P.S. we love you. xoxoxoxo



I want to wish my grandma grandma Coon Come happy birthday on Oct. 18. And to my uncles in Mistissini. Dennis on Oct. 8. Luke on Oct. 7. Hoping that happiness and laughter will be with you in the years ahead. Love, Sebastian in Chisasibi.

There is an upcoming birthday on Oct. 19. This young lady will be



### Official Notice of Elections Cree Nation Youth Council (of Eeyou Istchee) Position: Youth Grand Chief/Chairperson

To all Cree Youth Beneficiaries (ages 13-29) of James Bay Eeyou Istchee:
Please take the notice that the elections for the office of the Youth Grand Chief/Chairperson have been called. The elections will be held on Thursday, November 11, 1999 at the following Cree communities. The hours are from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. on the Election day.

Mistissini Chisasibi Nemaska Wemindji Waskaganish Eastmain

Waswanipi Whapmagoostui Ouje-Bougoumou

Other polling stations will also be situated at the following southern locations:

Ottawa - Cree Embassy Office Senneterre - Friendship Centre Val d'Or - Friendship Centre Montreal - GCCEI Office Washaw Sibi Eeyou Office - Amos, QC North Bay, ON - Canadore College

The closing date of the nominations will be on Wednesday, October 27, 1999.

All nominations must be filed to Chief Returning Officer
no later than 11:59 a.m. on October 27, 1999.

#### For further information, contact:

John S. Matoush
Clifford Loon
Derek Mark
Chief Returning
Assistant Chief Returning
Assistant Chief Returning
Tel: (418) 923-2274
Tel: (418) 923-2274
Tel: (819) 978-0264

Tel: (418) 923-2274 Fax: (418) 923-3115]
Tel: (418) 923-2274 Fax: (418) 923-3115
Tel: (819) 978-0264 Fax: (819) 978-0258

celebrating her 17th birthday in Mistissini with her man Jamie. Her name is Roberta Belinda Hester. I, Darla wanna wish you a very happy birthday. God bless you. We love you sis, aunt. With love, Edith, Darla. P.S. don't drink. Don't spoil your birthday. Just thank the Lord for the years. Have fun. Hi Jamie. From Darla.

We're very proud to send a birthday message to very handsome little prince, our son Darius Robert Miyobino Moar who will be celebrating his third birthday on Oct. 15. Already?!? There are no words that can express the love we have for you. You are so small and yet to bring so much love and happiness especially when you kiss and hug us goodnight or whatever time of day it is. We can feel your love that surrounds our home. No wonder they say that when a child is young they are so pure and so innocent. We love the way you do things around house and the way you treat us, especially your older brother and sisters. You are so gentle in every way and everything you do. We only pray that you get to be like that as you get older, we mean we don't want you to be perfect. We know that nobody's perfect. We know that your expecting a birthday party. So, we hope you enjoy yourself and your cake. We love you very much with all our hearts (as you would say). Love, Mom and dad.

I would like to wish my dad Norman happy birthday on Oct. 17. I love you Daddy. Hope you have a special day on your birthday. Love you so much. Sebastian Coon Come.

Birthday greetings going out to Jonathan Hester-Spencer on Oct. 18 even though you bug us a lot we still had the heart to wish you Very Happy Birthday and many more to come. Have a blast on your B-Day!!! Fr. your two buddies

Happy Birthday 1st birthday to my lovely niece Miranda Blueboy on October 17. You are to me a gift from God...a light in my life...a treasure in my heart. "Happy Birthday" Love you always Mary, Ottawa

Happy Birthday to Hazel Blueboy on October 17, also to Rod Blueboy on Oct 14. Hope you enjoy your birthdays!!Take care eh! Fr: Mary, Ottawa

Wishing my sister Sarah Blueboy a happy belated Birthday on Oct 3. I didn't forget anyway I was thinking of you and I wish all the best also to Pearl Blueboy on Ocotober 19, 1999. Don't party at all. Love Mary, Ottawa

Birthday greeting goes out to a special guy who is very CUTE and HANDSOME to my dearest boyfriend (angel of mine)Travis William Grant.Celebrating his birthday on Oct 27.I feel so lucky that yourmine! I am grateful that I meet someone wonderful like Toi!Je Yaime beaucoup!! Have a Blast on your birthday!!!Love alway's:Me (you know me!)xoxoxox. p/s I miss you alot!

I would like to wish my dad, John, a Happy Birthday on Oct 27. I would also like to say thank you for always being there for me, even though I was away from home most of the time. What would I do without your unconditional love and neverending support? You are truly one of a kind, anyway take it easy and enjoy your day after all it only comes once a year. Take care, I'll see you in December. Love, Your daughter Gloria in Ottawa.

Happy Birthday 1st birthday to my lovely niece Miranda Blueboy on Oct 17. You are to me a gift from God...a light in my life...a treasure in my heart."Happy Birthday" Love you always Mary, Ottawa

#### 102-WEDDINGS

Congratulations and best wishes to. Linda K. Neeposh and Gordon Swallow who shared their vows in marriage to one another on Sept 25th, 1999. May the Creator bring happiness to your lives now that you become one. Love from one of your buddies in Mistissini.

#### 103-ANNIVERSARIES

Happy 25th anniversary to Charles and Ruthe Matoush on November 22nd, 1999. We love you! From your family near and far!

A special anniversary greeting goes out to a couple, Rita and Adrian Snowboy in Chisasibi on Oct. 25, 1999. Happy anniversary to you both. May God bless you. We love you. With love, Edith and Darla Hester. Waskaganish.



I would like to wish my buddies Linda and Eric Mistacheesick a happy 1st anniversary on September 25th, 1999. May your love growth stronger every day. Love in friendship, Karen Gilpin. Chisasibi.

Happy 4th anniversary to the sweetest, cutest, most huggable and tallest guy in the world, Alex. Thanks for all the great memories, and any presents that you will one day give me. I love you, Jitsats heedin, je t'aime, ich liebe dich, te quiero, ya tebe lublyu. Tvoya kochana.

Happy 8th wedding anniversary to Howard and Florence Hester on Oct. 11, 1999. Wishing you both a lifetime of happiness. From mom, Ella and family. To the very special parents Alex and Harriet Brien. We want to wish them a happy 17th anniversary on Sept 11th. We love you both very much and thank you for all you have done for us and how you have shown your love to us. From your daughters April, Crystal and Whasdeskun, xoxo.

Happy anniversary on Oct. 5, 1999 to my special brother, Willie K. Gunner and his wife Maggie Gunner. And we just wanted to say hi and love you and that we always think about you quys. I quess we miss you both too. So take care of each other and may the Lord bless you on the special day and your children and also don't forget. I love you both. What lots of hugs and kisses. With love and prayers, your sister Annie Gunner and kids from Nemaska, To

We would like to wish our beautiful mother Virginia and our loving father Albert Gilpin Sr. happy 25th anniversary on September 4th, 1999. From your daughters Karen Priscilla and your only son Reginald. And let's not forget your grandson's Jarvis and Wallysh and eeesgoh your granddaughter Hannah.

Chisasibi.

#### 200-FOR SALE

Tent for sale. 40 X 60 feet. Aluminum steel frame, no centre pole along with coverings (white tarps). Used only two

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#### CLASSIFIEDS

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#### 300-PERSONALS

A big hello to my friends in low places....Joni Diamond, Betsy Whiskeychan, Marion Gilpin, Lori Morrison, Jamie Jacob and the others that I didn't mention. I hope all of u are doing o.k I miss you although were miles apart and take care of yourselves. Love Mary, Ottawa P.s Hey Joni call me eh!

A special Thank you to our family & friends who took part in the planning and preparation of our wedding. Aug 28, 1999 is a day that couldn't have been possible without the love, support & encouragement from all of our family and friends, especially our children: Jannah & Clifford, and our parents: Allan & Jane Loon and Matthew & Annie Neeposh and Clifford & Bella Loon, Natalie & Donald Matoush, Sandra & Brian Coonishish, Stanley & Emma Neeposh, Stephanie & Stanley Mianscum, Clifford & Emma Neeposh, Kyla & Keith, Shirley & Billy Longchap, Linda & Clarence Loon, Charlotte Blacksmith & Friends and the V.M.S. janitors that helped decorate the gym, Kenny & Louise Blacksmith with Oscar & Boom, Raymond Nakogee and Family, Emily Wapachee, Emily & Lillian Swallow, Minnie Mouse Shecapio, Suzanne Matoush, Evadney Edwards; the cooks, Emmett & Eva Matoush, Sydney & Winnie Trapper, Philomene Gunner, Winnie Mianscum, Anna Wapachee, Dinah & William Coon Come and everyone else who donated their baked goods; Great grandma Luce Iserhoff and Great grandpa David Neeposh. Also, to our wedding party, Henry Iserhoff, Helen V. Petawabano; Stanley Neeposh, Natalie Matoush; Isaac Iserhoff, Sandra Coonishish; Charlo Iserhoff, Kimberly Coon; Ring Bearers: Clifford Loon & Conrad Mianscum and the Flower Girls: Jannah Loon & Courtney Neeposh. Finally, Thank you to all our guests, especially the ones who had to travel to get here. With Love & Appreciation: Allan &

A big hello/waachiya to my buddy Andy Baribeau who is from the right wing of the band office in Mistissini. I just wanted to share my big greeting so the whole nation can hear. From your friend on the left side of the wing. Downstairs. P.S. be sure not to laugh. See you around. Bye! Bye!

Are alcohol and drugs destroying your life? Do you want to help yourself? Maybe we can help. We are Alcoholics

Anonymous. We meet in Mistissini on Saturday evenings, 8 p.m., in the basement of St. John's Anglican church

I would like to take this time to say Hi, to one of my best friend, Jeremy Wapachee in Hull, Quebec. So how's the city gals pal? expect me soon in Ottawa, so wewill go out to explore these gals man. Later friend from Yashin in OJ.

#### 500-MISCELLANEOUS

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Please take notice. I, Annette Julie Diamond residing at 63 popular street,

Waswanipi, Que. present to the Director L'etat Civil a request to change the name of my daughter Meraya Sophie Diamond to Mariah Sophie Diamond. Sept 22, 1999.

Looking for a long lost friend "Rolland Laroche". Si tu me reconnais appelle moi. Indice: Tu as appeller ta fille apres moi.

#### PLAZA LA CHAUDIÈRE HULL/OTTAWA

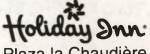


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